

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

RÖKMAN et al

Atty. Ref.: **3952-50**

Serial No. **Unknown**

Group:

Filed: **January 11, 2002**

Examiner:

For: **CHOPPED STRAND NON-WOVEN MAT PRODUCTION**

* * * * *

January 14, 2002

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee in the above identified application, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, after the title and before "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION" insert the following:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a divisional of Application Serial No. 09/543,534, filed April 5, 2000, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 through 13, 34, and 35-36.

Please add the following new claims:

37. (New) A method as recited in claim 14, wherein said mat is manufactured by the foam process to form a mat having at least regions which exhibit different physical or chemical properties.

38. (New) A method as recited in claim 14, which comprising using a headbox, to form a mat comprised of at least two regions having substantially different properties which include at least one of different density, different material, different reinforcement threads, and different reinforcement webs.

39. (New) A method as recited in claim 38, wherein the headbox is a multilayer headbox.

40. (New) A method as recited in claim 38, wherein the headbox is a divided headbox.

REMARKS

Claims 14 through 33 and newly added claims 37-40 are submitted for examination in the presently filed divisional application, while canceled claims 1 through 13 and 34 are pending in parent application Serial No. 09/543,534.

An appropriate cross-reference to the copending parent application has been inserted into the specification.

New claims 37-40 have been added to include generally the subject matter of now cancelled claims 35 and 36, but which conform to the expressions of claim 14 from which such new claims depend.

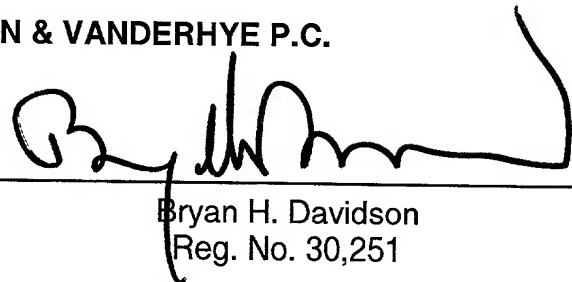
RÖKMAN et al
Serial No. Unknown

An early and favorable action based on the merits of the present claims is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



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